

## From the Editor

THIS month's cover photograph by the Texas Army National Guard's SSG Ken Walker is a result of *Soldiers'* new Center of Photographic Excellence Program.

Under the program, *Soldiers* is seeking out the very best photographers from our Army. Our goal is to establish a stable of superior photographers from around the world, whether active or reserve component or Department of the Army civilian, and call upon them to cover stories in their geographic areas.

In Walker's case, he sent us his portfolio, we accepted him into the program and sent him on temporary duty as the magazine's representative to cover sniper training in Arkansas.

While shooting for *Soldiers* won't make you rich, it will help you build your portfolio. We'll give you a photo credit, and more than 1.2 million readers around the world will see your work in the magazine's printed and online versions. If you want to join our team, send us your portfolio.

*John C. Suttle*

## Loved Netherlands

THANKS for your great February article "On Duty in the Netherlands."

I was honored to command the Combat Equipment Base-Vriezenveen (then called the 19th Combat Equipment Company) from December 1994 to June 1996, and was the S-2/3 officer of the Army Materiel Command Combat Equipment Group-Europe until my PCS in June 1997.

Your article brought back fond memories of the dynamic Dutch workforce in Vriezenveen, comfortable housing in Coevorden and Jabeek, our self-adopted Dutch grandparents, and the many hours of biking, photographing windmills and fishing.

Our tour in the Netherlands was truly the best three years we've spent in the Army. Thanks again for the memories and keep up the good work.

*LTC Charles W. Bonnell  
via e-mail*

## E-mail Correction

IN your February issue, you published the wrong e-mail addresses for the Balkans Collection POCs. The correct e-mail address for Alan C. Aimone is [ua3925@usma.edu](mailto:ua3925@usma.edu); for CPT Jeffrey French it is [kj6911@usma.edu](mailto:kj6911@usma.edu).

*MAJ Charles R. Stachowski  
via e-mail*

*THANK you for the e-mail update; however, we printed the letter as we received it.*

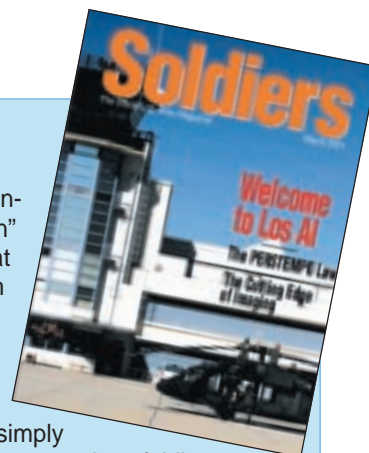
## Hot Topics

CONGRATULATIONS. Your February "Hot Topics" on personal finances and budgeting was a timely and valuable resource for our soldiers.

## River Run

JUST a tidbit of information concerning your March "River Run" article. The term "assault float bridge" is strictly a colloquial term generated by years of not utilizing the proper name for this fantastic bridge. The correct nomenclature is Improved Float Bridge (Ribbon Bridge) or simply Ribbon Bridge [derived from its automatic unfolding (ribbon-like) characteristic]. The only possible Army bridge still in use that might qualify for the term "assault bridge" would be the Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge (AVLB).

*H-P Phillips  
U.S. Army Tank and Automotive Command  
Tactical Bridging SME/CBI*



## Wrong Fort

JUST wanted to let you know about an oversight in the March issue of *Soldiers*. On page 22, "Focus on People," you ran the release I sent you about the U.S. Army Culinary Arts Team winning the World Championship at the Culinary Olympics in Germany last fall.

The "oversight" is that you attributed the release to Fort Eustis, rather than Fort Lee. As always, thanks for your support.

*Jim Bolton, PAO  
Fort Lee, Va.*

## Identifying Soldier

THE Sharp Shooters picture of the soldier on page 36 of the March issue is captioned incorrectly. His name is SPC Alex Nosik and he's a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 186th Infantry Regiment, 41st Separate Inf. Brigade, Oregon Army National Guard. I was deployed with SPC Nosik. We were in an infantry company used as the security force for 5th Bn., 7th ADA.

*SGT Chad T. Lewis  
via e-mail*

However, the statement on page four about closing the pay gap between enlisted and officers is not a valid comparison. The goal should be to close the pay gap between enlisted members and their civilian counterparts. Our officers, too, need to be compensated competitively to keep them in uniform. Civil-

ian employers are willing to pay big money and benefits to attract and retain good workers. The military must do the same.  
*COL John E. Piskai, USAR  
Exton, Pa.*

YOUR Fall 2000 "Hot Topics" issue on "Dietary Supplements — Is Your Health at Risk?" was

excellent. We will probably use parts of it in a luncheon lecture. Thanks!

*Capt. Douglas Houston  
Health Promotions Director  
Health and Wellness Center  
McChord AFB, Wash.*

IS the Spring 1999 issue of "Hot Topics" available on the Internet as a .pdf Acrobat file?

*James E. Larsen  
via e-mail*

*NOT yet. But that's a good idea, and we'll work on it. Thanks for the suggestion.*

## Korea Outreach

PERSCOM's Casualty and Memorial Affairs Operations Center has a Web page outlining a primary function of this office — looking for relatives of U.S. service members who did not return from the Korean War. Readers who have, or know of

others who have, such relatives who were Korean War casualties are asked to contact the Casualty and Memorial Affairs Office at (800) 892-2490. The website can be found at [www.perscom.army.mil/tagd/lookfa.htm](http://www.perscom.army.mil/tagd/lookfa.htm).

*Dave Talaber, PERSCOM  
via e-mail*

## Missing Almanacs

FOR whatever reason, my unit did not receive its required 20 copies of **The Soldiers Almanac**. As you know, this is a valuable tool and we would like to get it. The Publications Distribution Facility confirmed our account requirements. Can you send us replacement copies?

*SFC Samuel Ramos  
Fort Benning, Ga.*

*YOUR and others' requested extra or replacement copies have been mailed or shipped.*

## Available Text

DO you have a website where readers can pull for free the text from articles and illustration captions in **Soldiers**? I could find no listing of any such Web address in your December issue. Also, do you also have your full index on the Internet? I noticed your December issue had the index to Volume 55. Having it available in electronic form would make searching through it a whole lot easier than having to locate it in printed form.

*Daniel Costanzo  
U.S. Army Topographic  
Engineering Center*

*THE URL for Soldiers Online ([www.dtic.mil/soldiers](http://www.dtic.mil/soldiers)) is at the bottom of the masthead in*


*each issue. No, we don't yet have the annual index posted online, but thanks for the excellent suggestion.*

## Fort Ben Artifacts

THE Fort Benjamin Harrison Historical Society is seeking pictures, old post cards, documents and especially personal histories of individuals who served at the fort. We would also like to eventually acquire copies or original artifacts to exhibit for local citizens to see. Our e-mail address is [fortben@msn.com](mailto:fortben@msn.com). My personal e-mail address is [mmontgo749@home.com](mailto:mmontgo749@home.com). Our phone number is (317) 577-9087.

*Mike Montgomery  
via e-mail*

**Soldiers** is for soldiers and DA civilians. We invite readers' views. Stay under 150 words — a post card will do — and include your name, rank and address. We'll withhold your name if you desire and may condense your views because of space. We can't publish or answer every one, but we'll use representative views. Write to: **Feedback, Soldiers**, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581, or e-mail: [soldiers@belvoir.army.mil](mailto:soldiers@belvoir.army.mil).



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